

**Lower Feather River Corridor Management Plan
Public Outreach Meetings
Sutter County Board of Supervisors
Sutter County Hall of Records
466 Second St.
Yuba City, CA**

7:00 p.m.

Questions following Earl Nelson's Presentation on the LFR CMP:

Supervisor Montna: I'm one of the few in the room who went through the 1955 flood. In the mid 1960s, we cleaned the vegetation out of the Feather River, and since then, all that's happened is that it's grown back. If that doesn't impede the flow of water, I don't know what does. You can't have habitat in the floodplain – if you don't believe me, look at the LA River. Having the trees in there slows it down. SBFCA will build a slurry wall to strengthen the levee from the confluence of the Feather to the Thermalito Afterbay. Go down to Dingville and look at the forest that's been planted there and tell me water can go through it.

Earl Nelson: We don't do concrete channels anymore. There's habitat and habitat. Certainly blackberry and arunda will choke flows – you want willows, grassland, and even orchards with high vegetation but no undergrowth will allow flow (although orchards can't survive standing water so it has to be moved through the system rapidly). I've taken note of your comments – we have regulatory agencies and rules to deal with, and we believe there are ways to work within that and still achieve our public safety goals.

Supervisor Montna: A guy I knew planted an orchard in the plain and had to re-level and replant every year, and eventually he gave up after three years.

Supervisor Gallagher: I would encourage you to make sure that landowners and agriculturalists have input in your plan – I saw a lot of agencies, but are there enough landowners who will be affected by habitat that's put in and so on.

Earl Nelson: We had a public meeting on July 20 at the Yuba-Sutter Farm Bureau, and we have monthly meetings in Sacramento at AECOM's offices.

Supervisor Gallagher: I would suggest that you have your meetings in this area so that locals can take part, rather than in Sacramento.

Earl Nelson: We have levee district participation at our meetings, and we will have more meetings and opportunities for input as the plan becomes available for review.

Supervisor Cleveland: Farm Bureau, LD-1, and RD-1001 have taken part, and through this kind of input, the importance of sediment removal has been added as an activity that needs to be permitted. We've also started contacting commercial fisherman and people who understand exactly where the sandbars and sediment is being deposited. It's been out of our view, but our issues have been brought up at various meetings and I hope to be able to fight hard and strong to make sure that we're well recognized. This is a pilot program for the state; there'll be changes for regional differences, but they want to make sure that everything is considered. If you know of anybody else who has strong input, have them get a hold of me to share their concerns or take part in the meetings.

July 26, 2011

Supervisor Gallagher: This is an important project, and people in my district will be affected and need to be involved in this process.

Supervisor Whiteaker: Northern California Water Association should also be involved.

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